

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /175 W
----- 075846

P R 081246Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 903

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 10114

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL, NOTE PARA 11

FROM US REP MBFR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING - DEC 6, 1973

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. FRG REP (BEHREND) CIRCULATED MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION (SEPT) OF FRG DEP REP WITH POLISH DELOFF (WOJTOWICZ). BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) AND NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) REPORTED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH ROMANIAN REP (ANINOIU) AND DEP REP (POPESCU) WHO THOUGHT RUSSIANS MIGHT ACCEPT HALF OF SOVIET REDUCTION PROPOSED BY ALLIES. ROMANIAN REP WONDERED IF WEST MIGHT YIELD ON COMMON CEILING FOR EXCLUSION OF NATIONAL FORCES
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IN PHASE ONE, SINCE HE FELT FORMER UNACCEPTABLE BUT EAST NOT

UNALTERABLY OPPOSED TO THE LATTER. GROUP REJECTED REQUEST OF ITALIAN DEP REP (TALIANI) TO DEMAND FROM AUSTRIANS ACCOUNTING OF CONFERENCE EXPENSES CHARGED TO PARTICIPANTS, WHICH HIS AUTHORITIES THOUGHT EXCESSIVE. GROUP AGREED COSTS WERE MODERATE. FRG REP DISTRIBUTED EXCERPT FROM AUTHORITATIVE GDR PERIODICAL GIVING RATHER HIGH ESTIMATES OF NATO STRENGTH IN TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT. GROUP APPROVED WORKING GROUP DRAFT OF PRESENTATION NO. 3 AND AGREED THAT LANGUAGE OF DELIVERY WOULD BE REGARDED AS AUTHENTIC TEXT. END SUMMARY.

2. BILATERALS. FRG REP CIRCULATED MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN FRG DEP REP (HOFMANN) AND POLISH DELOFF WOJTOWICZ (TEXT SEPTTEL), INDICATING A POSSIBLE SHIFT IN THE POLISH POSITION TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF FOCUS ON US-SOVIET WITHDRAWALS. BELGIAN REP REPORTED LUNCH WITH ROMANIAN REP WHO CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS WERE EAGER TO ACHIEVE SOME CONCRETE REDUCTIONS BY 1975 AND WERE TRYING TO BRING TWO PHASES SUFFICIENTLY CLOSE TOGETHER TO SATISFY EAST REQUIREMENT OF INCLUSION OF NATIONAL FORCES. PRESSED FOR DETAILS OF SOVIET ATTITUDE, ROMANIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT BELGIAN REP CONSULT OTHER WARSAW PACT REPS RATHER THAN ROMANIANS. NETHERLANDS REP WHO HAD ATTENDED SAME LUNCH ADDED THAT ROMANIAN REP DID NOT EXPECT THAT SOVIETS WOULD ACCEPT THE FIGURES FOR SOVIET REDUCTION IN PHASE ONE WHICH WERE PROPOSED BY THE ALLIES. ROMANIAN REP THOUGHT THAT A REDUCTION ON THE ORDER OF HALF THAT WAS PROPOSED BY ALLIES HAD A CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE. ROMANIAN REP THOUGHT ALSO THAT THE CONCEPT OF A COMMON CEILING WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIETS, AND THAT THE EAST WAS LESS CATEGORICALLY OPPOSED TO EXCLUSION OF NATIONAL FORCES FROM PHASE ONE. ROMANIAN REP WONDERED IF THE WEST WERE WILLING TO GIVE UP THE CONCEPT OF A COMMON CEILING IN RETURN FOR EXCLUSION OF NATIONAL FORCES FROM PHASE ONE. HE ALSO CRITICIZED THE WESTERN PROPOSAL AS VERY "LAPIDAIRE." HE WONDERED WHAT ELSE THE WEST HAD UP ITS SLEEVE AND SAID HE COULD NOT IMAGINE THAT THE WEST HAD NOTHING ELSE TO ADVANCE. THE PROPOSED DATES OF THE REDUCTIONS WORRIED HIM. BELGIAN REP ASSURED HIM THAT THE ALLIES WOULD MOVE FORWARD AS REAPIDLY AS THE EAST WAS PREPARED TO PERMIT. NETHERLANDS REP SAID HE HAD TOLD ROMANIAN REP THAT WEST WAS NOT YET WILLING TO COMMIT ITSELF TO SPECIFIC TARGET DATES, BUT THAT TWO SIDES WERE NOT FAR APART.

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3. BELGIAN REP ADDED THAT ROMANIANS WERE CONCERNED THAT RUSSIANS WERE LOSING INTEREST IN CSCE AND MIGHT SHIFT SOME OF THEIR INTERESTS TO MBFR. BELGIAN DEP REP SAID THAT ROMANIAN DEP REP HAD AGAIN SUGGESTED THAT PROBLEM OF INVITING OTHER INTERESTED EUROPEAN STATES TO PARTICIPATE IN VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS BE SOLVED ONCE AND FOR ALL BY ISSUING COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF A PLENARY STATING AN INTENTION OF KEEPING THEM INFORMED, EITHER THROUGH A SET PROCEDURE OR THROUGH BILATERAL CHANNELS.

4. FRG REP DISTRIBUTED EXCERPT OF AN ARTICLE FROM GDR PERIODICAL HORIZONT WHICH, HE SAID, REFLECTED VIEWS OF GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY. TEXT OF FRG CIRCULAR FOLLOWS: QUOTE: IN THE GDR MAGAZINE HORIZONT, WHICH USUALLY TREATS QUESTIONS OF FOREIGN POLICY, NO. 45/73, AN ARTICLE WAS PUBLISHED UNDER THE TITLE "FOR MILITARY DETENTE IN CENTRAL EUROPE - SOME BASIC QUESTIONS ON MUTUAL REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS," BY GERHARD ZAZWORKA. IN THIS ARTICLE IT IS STATED INTER ALIA: INNER QUOTE: IN THE AREA OF AFCENT 7000 NUCLEAR WARHEADS ARE STORED. 8000 MAIN BATTLE TANKS AND 3000 AIRCRAFT ARE READDY FOR USE. THE 500,000 SOLDIERS OF THE BUNDESWEHR REPRESENTS 50 PERCENT OF THE DIVISIONS, 40 PERCENT OF THE ROCKETS, 60 PERCENT OF ANTI-TANK WEAPONS, 45 PERCENT OF THE TANKS AND 47 PERCENT OF THE NUCLEAR ARTILLERY OF NATO IN CENTRAL EUROPE. WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE FRG ARE STATIONED 228,000 US, 57,000 BRITISH, 62,000 FRENCH, 30,000 BELGIAN, 10,000 NETHERLANDS AND 5,000 CANADIAN SOLDIERS. IF ONE ADDS THE NATO FORCES ON THE TERRITORIES OF BELGIAN, NETHERLANDS AND LUXEMBOURG, ONE WOULD STATE THAT NATO MAINTAINS SOME 1.1 MILLION SOLDIERS UNDER ARMS IN THIS AREA. INNER UNQUOTE. UNQUOTE.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE. ITALIAN DEP REP SAID THAT HIS AUGHORITIES WERE COMPLAINING THAT CHARGES LEVIED BY AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT AS PARTICIPANTS' SHARE OF CONFERENCE COSTS WERE EXCESSIVE. HIS AUTHORITIES WANTED AN ITEMIZED ACCOUNTING. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE MATTER BE CLARIFIED IN NATO, WHERE THE DECISION WAS TAKEN. BELGIAN DEP REP (WILLOT) COUNTERED THAT NEGOTIATION PARTICIPANTS HAD ASKED THE AUSTRIANS IF THEY COULD USE VIENNA AS A SITE, NOT VICE VERSA. AUSTRIANS HAD ASKED PARTICIPANTS WHAT SERVICES WOULD BE REQUIRED, HAD PROVIDED BUILDING AND TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRATIS AND HAD ASKED ONLY REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES, MAINLY PERSONNEL, BULK OF WHICH WAS FOR TRANSLATORS. NAC HAD DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE HELSINKI FORMULA
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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /175 W

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P R 081246Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 904

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 10114

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL, NOTE PARA 11

FROM US REP MBFR

ALTHOUGH APPLYING IT TO NINETEEN INSTEAD OF THRITY-FIVE COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THAT AT TIME OF NAC DISCUSSION ITALY HAD RESERVED RIGHT TO ASK FOR NATO SHARES TO BE POOLED AND REAPPORTIONED ACCORDING TO NATO INTERNAL COST-SHARING ARRANGEMENTS. BELGIAN DEP REP CONCLUDED THAT AHG SHOULD NOT GET INTO THE BUSINESS OF REAPPORTIONMENT OF EXPENSES. HIS AUSTRIAN CONTACT MAN ON ADMINISTRATION SIMPLY DID NOT KNOW WHAT COSTS WERE GOING TO BE, AND COULD GIVE A RANGE ONLY OF 250,000 TO 500,000 SHILLINGS PER MONTH.

6. BELGIAN DEP DEP CONTINUED THAT THE HAD SPOKEN TO RUSSIAN CHIEF INTERPRETOR IN UNIDO WHICH IS PROVIDING TRANSLATOR. CHIEF TRANSLATOR HAD INFORMED BELGIAN THAT THE AUSTRIANS PAID THE 16 TRANSLATORS REQUIRED BY UNION RULES EVERY DAY IN-
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CLUDING WEEKENDS AT 90 DOLLARS A DAY, WHETHER OR NOT THEY WORKED. FOUR OF THE TRANSLATORS WERE RUSSIANS, ON THE GROUNDS THAT NO AUSTRIANS WERE AVAILABLE. THE RUSSIAN THOUGHT THE CONFERENCE COULD GET ALONG WITH EIGHT. BUT THE TRANSLATORS ARE ALREADY UNDER CONTRACT AND THE AUSTRIANS DID NOT KNOW THE WORKLOAD BEFOREHAND. THERE WAS SOME ADVANTAGE IN CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS IN THAT TRANSLATORS CANNOT BE DIVERTED AWAY FROM MBFR DURING THE SUMMER CONFERENCE PEAK PERIOD. FRG REP SUPPORTED

BELGIAN DEP REP, SAYING THAT AUSTRIANS HAD BEEN VERY GENEROUS, AND THAT IN GENEVA CONFERENCES HAD TO PAY FOR EVERYTHING DOWN TO THE SALARIES OF THE POLICE WATCHING THE BULDINGS. CONSENSUS WAS THAT NO OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE MADE TO THE AUSTRIANS REGARDING COSTS.

7. DISCUSSION OF WORKING GROUP DRAFT OF PRESENTATION NO.

3.

UK DEP REP (GOODALL), SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF WORKING GROUP EXPLAINED THAT GROUP HAD ANTICIPATED THAT DOCUMENT WOULD BE TRANSLATED INTO GERMAN AND ASKED FORBEARANCE WITH REGARD TO MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES WHICH WOULD BE LOST IN TRANSLATION. CANADIAN REP (GRANDE) RAISED QUESTION WHETHER GROUP SHOULD CIRCULATE TEXT IN LANGUAGE OF DELIVERY, WHICH PROVOKED GENERAL DISCUSSION OF WHICH DRAFT COULD BE CONSIDERED AUTHENTIC. IT WAS AGREED THAT DRAFTS COULD CONTINUE TO BE CIRCULATED IN ENGLISH WHEREEVER POSSIBLE, AND DELEGATIONS WITH INSUFFICIENT MASTERY OF THE LANGUAGE COULD PRESENT OUTLINES TO THE WORKING GROUP WHICH COULD THEN PUT THEM IN GOOD ENGLISH. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE

LANGUAGE OF DELIVERY WOULD BE THE AUTHENTIC TEXT, AND THAT THE AGREED ENGLISH DRAFT WOULD PURPORT TO BE A TRANSLATION OF IT. GROUP ADOPTED TEXT OF WORKING GROUP DRAFT WITH MINOR STYLISTIC CHANGES (SEPTTEL).

8. BELGIAN DEP REP ANNOUNCED THAT MAYOR OF VIENNA HAD INVITED MBFR DELEGATIONS TO A RECEPTION ON 10 DECEMBER.HUMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, TROOP REDUCTIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENNA10114
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731235/aaaaazyp.tel
Line Count: 251
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <01-Oct-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING - DEC 6, 1973
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005